

REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, 29, and 41-58 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 10, 29, and 41-58 stand rejected. Claims 1, 10, and 29 are hereby amended. New claim 59 is presented herein. Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the following remarks and allowance of the claims.

Rejections Based Upon 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 10, 29, 41, 43-46, 47, 49-52, 53, and 55-58 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,493,765 (Cunningham). Claims 42, 48, and 54 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cunningham in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,574 (Voit). Applicant traverses the rejections for the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 1 requires receiving in the access server a user data packet from the user system with the user data packet identifying a first destination alias *and the user*, and translating the user data packet into a network data packet by replacing the first destination alias with a second destination alias *from a user profile for the user* wherein the second destination alias relates to a destination network address that relates to a selected one communication network of the plurality of communication networks. Translating the first destination alias into the second destination address advantageously improves load balancing across a network (Specification, page 74, line 27 to page 75, line 5). Furthermore, translating the first alias to a second alias from a user profile for the user provides for custom alias resolution based on the identify of the user.

In contrast, Cunningham does not disclose custom alias resolution as required by claim 1. Rather, Cunningham discloses a system whereby a destination host domain name is sent from a

source host device and translated into a global source network address. The destination host domain name is not translated to a second alias based on a user profile of the user. In other words, the destination host domain name (first alias) is created and translated completely separate from any user influence. Claim 1 requires that the second alias to which the first alias is translated is from the user profile for the user who initially transmitted the first alias. The translation in Cunningham is not related to any user, user preferences, nor any other type of interaction or relation to the user.

New dependent claim 59 further requires translating the first alias into a third destination alias from another user. In other words, another use could customize his or her user profile so that a chosen first alias is associated with a different destination alias. Thus, claim 59 recites the same first alias as in claim 1 translated into a third alias different from the second alias of claim 1. Cunningham does not disclose a first alias that is initially translated to a second alias for an initial user, and then translated to a third and different alias for another user.

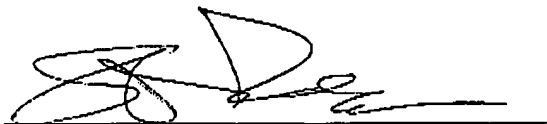
Independent claims 10 and 29 contain limitations similar to claim 1 and are therefore allowable over the prior art for the same reasons as claim 1. The remaining dependent claims, while containing limitations that render them separately allowable over the art of record, depend from allowable independent claims and are therefore also allowable.

CONCLUSION

The claims in their present form are allowable over the art of record. Applicant therefore solicits their allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6-9-04

**SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER**

Stephen S. Roche, Reg. No. 52,176
Duft Setter Ollila & Bornsen LLC
Telephone: (303) 938-9999 ext. 15
Facsimile: (303) 938-9995

Correspondence address:

CUSTOMER NO. 28004

Attn: Harley R. Ball
6391 Sprint Parkway
Mailstop: KSOPHT0101-Z2100
Overland Park, KS 66251-2100